THE

Latter-day Saints' Millennial Star.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.—Jesus Christ.

Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.—A Voice from Heaven.

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Why are the Saints?

BY ELDER MATTHEW ROWAN.

By the unenlightened portion of the world's inhabitants the name of *Saint*—Latter-day Saint—is utterly contemned. A few there are, however, who glory in the appellation, but whether all who are designated by this rare and truly honourable title are worthy of the same, is the humble business of this article to criticise.

Many were called *to be* Saints in what are termed Apostolic times; but were they all *Saints indeed* who were thus called? No, verily! *pusillanimity, treachery, vice,* and other specimens of rank *ungodliness,* were the obnoxious characteristics of some who had subscribed to the cause of Christ. So flagrant were their vices, that they were righteously reproached and detested by some of their heathenish neighbours.

In this day of God's mercy many are called to be Saints, or, in other words, to become *holy*. "*Ye shall be holy*; for I am holy," is the emphatic command of the God of Israel to His people now as it was to His people anciently. He who said to Abraham—"*Walk before me, and be thou perfect,*" has placed the same injunction upon all those who are called to be the children of that renowned Patriarch. But need we ask if all those who are *now* called with such a high and glorious calling are making honourable the same in the eyes of God, angels, and men? We may do so, but alas! with no reason to hope for an answer in the affirmative. Oh! that we could do so. How glorious and soul-cheering would be the contemplation, that all the thousands of men and women who *even now* are enlisted in the cause of God and truth were living up to the mark of their high calling, and that they were Latter-day Saints indeed! Were that the case, surely the devil would give up all hopes of ever gaining a victory over the cause of God, and the angels of heaven would exult and would swell forth their anthems of praise and shouts of victory throughout the celestial habitations of the Gods, "as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth;" while peace and good will, yea all the blessings both of heaven and earth would crown each happy day for the children of God upon this self-same world of ours.

But, ah! the dismal and disagreeable reverse is the true case; truth and righteousness are loved and practised but by the few, scorned and rejected by the many.

By pseudo-saints we are as liable to be treacherously stung as was our Master, Jesus. By the pusillanimous of such we are as liable to suffer for want of support and co-operation in the time of need as was Paul the Apostle on a certain occasion.—2 Tim. iv. 16.

By the *drunkard*, the *libertine*, the *venomous-tongued tattler*, the *sneaking busy-body*, and other reprobate characters who infest the Church, disparagement and scandal must inevitably befall the same, and those who walk agreeable to her holy laws. For even the finest gold, when besmeared with dirt, to the passer-by looks worthless, but when such is rubbed up a little, or when the dirt is rubbed off, the gold appears in its own intrinsic worth and beauty; it is then admired by those who, perchance, formerly scorned it. The Church presents to the eye of those not sufficiently acquainted with her, a rather depreciating appearance in some instances; but when once the Almighty, by means of His JUDGES and COUNSELLORS, shall have turned His hand upon her, and shall have *purely purged away her dross, and taken away all her tin*, she will come out *fair as the sun, clear as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners*, and shall stand the pride, joy, and admiration of all the earth!

The endeavour to convince some in the Church, that in consequence of their slothfulness and other bad habits, they are not Latter-day Saints—that they have neither part nor lot in the matter, is attended with considerable labour, and in many cases it is labour in vain. Such rely much more upon the efficacy of their baptism and confirmation than on the virtue of faithfulness; forgetting, or heedless of the fact, that it is he alone that endureth *faithful unto the end*, who has the promise of salvation. As the Apostle John says, "*Let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness, is righteous, even as he* (God) *is righteous.*"

As the Jews vaunted, in the darkness of their minds, in the delusion of their being the children of faithful Abraham, and consequently heirs to all the glorious promises made to him by the Lord, so do many of the equally dark-minded, who have a nominal standing in the Church, boast of their being the sons and daughters of God *by the laws of adoption*, while at the same time their actions are as discordant to the laws of God, as were the views and actions of the anti-Christian Jews to those entertained and practised by father Abraham. Jesus said to the Jews, "*If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.*" And Paul informed the former-day Christians that "*as many as are led by the Spirit of God*, THEY ARE THE SONS OF GOD." And according to Peter, the Holy Ghost is given "*to them that obey.*"

To know that we are of God is to know that we are diligent in keeping His commandments as they are given unto us. For *many are called, but few chosen.* And the parable of the kingdom of heaven being likened unto a net that was cast into the sea and gathered of every kind, and the treatment those gathered are to undergo when drawn ashore by men, ought to be a sufficient hint to all of us.

One thing we should never lose sight of, and that is, we cannot well deceive, as to *what we are*, those whose business it is to draw us ashore, and to *put the* GOOD *in vessels, and to throw the* BAD *away.*

God gives judgment in the superlative degree to those whom He calls to be indeed "*fishers of men*," by which they are enabled to discriminate between the *good* and the *bad;* and although the mantle of hypocrisy may be tightly and closely wrapped around the dissembler, he shall be detected by his judges, they judging not alone by the hearing of the ear, nor by the seeing of the eye, but more particularly by the spirit of judgment and truth that is in them; while the guileless Saint, who has served God in the probity and integrity of his soul, will meet with an ample and happy reward at their hands.

Naturally, there are great differences in the characters of individuals, as much almost as there are in the appearances and natures of the various plants that grow and flourish in the various soils and climates of the earth. The cultivation and transplantation of plants effect wonderful improvements in them.

For lack of cultivation, &c., of plants, they will degenerate, and differ both in appearance and nature. But one thing I would observe, namely, that a *weed* never can become, by either cultivation or transplantation, anything else than a *mere weed*. By cultivation, &c., a weed may grow, but it will only grow in *size*—by growing, it will grow a *greater* WEED—nothing else. So the human being whose soul is of a depraved cast, can

never act altogether so nobly and virtuously as the one whose soul partakes of the nature of that being who in his very soul "*loved righteousness and hated iniquity*," which caused him to have an anointing above that of his fellows.

Says the Lord, "*Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.*"

Some seem to have found an entrance into the kingdom of God for the sole purpose (unknown to themselves) of, as it were, *scouring* and *polishing* others, adapted to a better use, around them; and when they have done their mean yet indispensable work, they either sneak out or are cast out for their pains!

While speaking thus, the recollection of a circumstance forces itself into my mind. It was the circumstance of our Saviour calling twelve of his followers to the dignity of the Apostleship, and according to his own statement, one of them he *knew* to be a *devil*; and in reference to the devilish work he was to do, said Jesus in the nobleness of his soul, "*That thou doest, do quickly.*" We all know what he did, and what he got for it. But while admitting the utility of such characters, we cannot help regarding them as the meanest of the mean in the dynasty of their father the devil. The very thought of the end of such is awful!

But the unsaintly conduct of some in the Church can never serve for an excuse to others for their non-performance of righteousness, or for their non-obedience to the requirements of the Gospel of the Son of God. For it ought to be considered that all who act contrary to their avowed profession are wrong—are false—let the cause they have espoused be true or false. And such characters being thus proved false, ought not to be taken by others as ensamples. No; examples ought to be sought from those that are known to be the *living embodiments* of the principles they profess, instead of from the non-conformer and renegade.

Then, who are the Saints? How are they to be known? "*Ye shall know them by their* FRUITS. *Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.*" Jesus, the great *Master Spirit*, gave that rule by which false prophets might be detected, and it will serve admirably well to assist or enable us to discover who are the Saints and who the sinners in the Church of God. In summer, when the trees are laden with fruits, there is little or no difficulty in distinguishing one tree from another; their respective fruits serve as a sort of nomenclature by which we can call them by their proper names, and by which we can know of their virtues and uses. The tree that is tallest, and has the most numerous and farthest extending branches, may be far from being the best in the garden; it may not bear the most delicious and serviceable fruit. No, though it may be so large as to keep in the shade smaller *trees, shrubs, flowers, and plants*, and although it may bear much fruit, yet its fruit may not be good, and the husbandman's axe would be applied to its root to hew it down; for what it is alone good for—*the burning*; for "*every tree that bringeth not forth* GOOD *fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.*"

Not all those who speak swellingly concerning the Church and its principles; not those who display an ostentatious show of faith and liberality towards the Church; not those who cannot stand up to testify concerning the work of the Lord, without, at the same time, astounding us with the declaration that they are willing to lay down their lives *at any time* for the doctrines and faith they have espoused, yet have not the soul to lay down, out of their *abundance*, more than the *widows's mite* to help on the work of the Lord; not those who have attained to such a proficiency after having been in the Church a few years, say twelve, and having been under the tuition of Elder KNOW-ALL, that now refuse to be taught and governed by Elder LAST-COME KNOW-LITTLE; not those who can only speak of their righteousness in the past tense; are the Saints; but those who are baptized with a humble and contrite spirit, and who, after having the Gift of the Holy Ghost given unto them by the laying on of the hands of God's servants, with a child-like obedience will keep inviolate the laws of God as they come to them through their proper officers; whose hearts are ever burning with profound gratitude to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, for His daily mercies unto them, and for the great blessing of being inducted into His Church and kingdom; who will honour the humble servant of God with

that honour which belongs unto him, whether he may be an Apostle, High Priest, Elder, Priest, Teacher, or Deacon, who lives in such a way in the world as to bring no just reproach upon the Church, and endeavour to maintain a character which is in perfect keeping with their profession. In censuring the unjust conduct of some who are wicked in heart, I wish not to be understood as condemning with such those who may make a slip through some in-bred or inherent weakness. Oh no; a proper distinction must be observed. Those who transgress through weakness, in their evil hour, are very different characters to those who transgress from a willingness to do wickedly. Peter, through sheer weakness, transgressed against his Lord. Judas did the same through a deeply-rooted wickedness. The weak repented and was made strong in his calling, the other was hurled from his high position to the low level of a son of perdition! The language of the Psalmist is beautifully appropriate on this subject, where he says, "Lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart. . . . . The Lord tries the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright."

Joseph the Prophet informs us that ZION is the PURE IN HEART. Yes; and in the land where such shall dwell, the sinner shall be afraid, and fearfulness shall surprise the hypocrite. David of old, with his mind enlightened upon this subject, says, "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."

Although the wicked at present may give great annoyance to the Church, and although they may do despitefully to the more righteous of their brethren and sisters, by such the righteous ought not to be overcome, nor should they grow weary in well-doing.

"*Fret not thyself,*" says David, "*because of evil doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. . . . . I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found. Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is* PEACE."

Foreign Correspondence.

DESERET.

(From the "Mormon," July 14.)

G. S. L. CITY, May, 31, 1855.

To the Editor of the *Mormon*:

SIR: Several numbers of your highly interesting paper have arrived by the Eastern and California Mails. The Eastern mail arrived on the 12th inst. with 27 sacks, the principal part of four months' mail, and considerably in advance of the usual *Ox Telegraph*, which has generally made its appearance in October and November, with a year's mail.

The Presidency, with a large company, have just visited most of the Southern Counties, the people are all enjoying excellent health, the Indians quiet, and many of them learning to work. The Iron Works are progressing.

But one thing much causes the feelings of all to awaken: every settlement has been visited with an innumerable host of grass-

hoppers, devouring all the early crops, standing guard over every spear of vegetation that may venture to present itself, and the moment a single blade appears, they attack it as vigilantly as Sir Colin Campbell's Minie Rifle Corps shoot at the Russian troops when they show their heads. The attack of the allied armies on Sebastopol is mere sham work compared with the investment of our grain fields by these united hosts.

The prospect bids fair for the Saints to learn to live by faith; for what little wheat is now left, the men, women and children appear to be organized into squads of three or four each, well armed with willow bushes, and they are very busy sweeping the armies of grasshoppers into the small creeks where they place coffee sacks, and when they get them filled, they dig trenches, and bury their enemy; others of the brethren are equally as busy where the grain is entirely gone, plowing, sowing wheat, harrowing, planting corn and potatoes, and they appear to be just as diligent as they were eight or ten weeks ago; 'tis true it appears rather late, but the Saints feel it is better to plant late than never, and they have a very strong faith that a loafer or a lazy man cannot live here this season, at least; and you may sound as loud an editorial as you please, that emigrants for the gold mines, unless they bring their provisions with them, are likely to feel a little hunger in common with us, unless they can make up their mind to live on grasshopper or cricket soup; for 60,000 Saints must be fed, whether the grasshoppers or crickets continue or not. Where they must draw their sustenance from for the next year, it requires a pretty good stretch of faith to imagine. The Lord says, in a revelation of Joseph Smith, "It is My Business to provide for the Saints," and there is a very strong prospect for him to have it to do this year, for they feel it difficult to take care of themselves.

A few loads of rock are drawn to the ground to commence building an office for the Historian, which will be built opposite the President's office.

Sent out my clerks, Thomas Bullock and Leo Hawkins, to take a peep at the public works, and they report that they have seen about 100 men very busy rolling down large rocks to form the foundation for the Temple, which is very nearly completed on the last or west side. They have commenced laying the flagging for the foundation of the cut stone, and very great progress has been made during the past month.

They saw several men at work, cutting the large stones for grinding seed for oil, which are 5 feet 8 inches in diameter, and 14 inches thick, and are expected to be finished next week.

Visited the foundry, the fire of which is blown by heavy machinery, and took a sweating while Morgan Phelps and his assistants cast two segments for a large iron wheel for a threshing machine, and which cannot very easily be beat in any of the Eastern States. Saw the blacksmith's shop, in which seven fires are kept constantly in blow, with the men broiling and sweating over their warm work, with the continual clink of the hammers, fashioning the useful and necessary articles for the public works.

Went into the stone-cutter's shop, where 17 men were busily plying their hammers and chisels, forming the coping for the north wall of the Temple Block, which is very near finished; also blocks, squares, and other shapes for different public buildings now in process towards completion; also saw a grave stone for Rodney Badger, who you will recollect was drowned in the Weber River, while endeavouring to save the lives of an emigrant woman, and her four orphan children, who were travelling to California last season; also one for the child of Elder O. Pratt, and one for Brother Patterson, who was killed while quarrying rock; all of which are the labour of Brother Wm. Ward, and will bear comparison with any work of a similar nature in the cities of America or Europe.

Next took a peep into the paint shop, where Brother James Beck was putting on the finishing touch to some bedsteads put together upon an entirely new and scientific principle; examined his various pieces of workmanship, with which the public paint shop abounds. I learn he has nine men under him in constant employ.

They then took a stroll through the lumber yard, and saw the numerous pile of lumber, which Brother E. Fordham told them contained over 150,000 feet. Went into the joiner's shop, which, under the superintendency of Brother Miles Romney, is a perfect bee hive for industry, every bench being in active occupation, and

every man intent upon the labours set before him. Saw the modeling shop, and finally visited the machine shop, where flanges, wheels, cranks, gudgeons, and machinery of various descriptions were being manufactured.

The whole being as complete a business establishment as you ever saw in any of the United States, England, Scotland, France, Germany, or any part of the world in which you have been a traveller; and although *you know* what Mormon enterprize is, I can scarcely write so that you can read and *realize* the great amount of improvements that have been made, and are daily making in our midst.

The people begin to realize that there is no place like the public works, for there they are sure of their food and the necessaries of life; while at the same time every other person is fearing and trembling, and endeavouring to work his temporal salvation in trying to raise a sufficiency of food; but the result of their labours they leave in the hands of Almighty God to do with them as seemeth good in His sight.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. A. SMITH.

IRON COUNTY.

(From the "Deseret News," May 30.)

Parowan, May 14, 1855.

To the Editor of the *Deseret News*.

Henry Rollins, Esq., of San Bernardino, arrived in this city last evening, and will shortly proceed to G. S. L. City with a handsome assortment of goods, principally groceries. He came through in twenty-three days, with heavily-loaded teams. No news of importance from California.

It is a general time of health in this County. The farmers are still sowing wheat, the spring being very backward. Grasshoppers of small dimensions are far more numerous than the contending armies in the Crimea.

One hundred and fifty men are wanted immediately in this County to carry on the Iron Works successfully; those most needed are wagoners, miners, colliers, lime-burners, lumbermen, quarrymen, brick and stone-masons, carpenters, joiners, machinists, charcoal burners, and furnace men. Fifty additional teams are necessary to keep the furnace supplied with fuel and ore. The people are in high spirits on the iron subject, the furnace having been kept successfully in operation two weeks satisfied the most sceptical that nothing was wanting but to continue the charge, as the furnace was blown out simply for want of fuel.

Mr. F. T. Whitney, of Parowan, is manufacturing a very good article of cut nails; the cutting machine was got up under the supervision of the Hon. C. C. Pendleton, and the header was constructed by Mr. Whitney, who is an ingenious mechanic. The work is principally done by Piede workmen, under his supervision.

Mr. Pendleton is erecting a machine shop; the walls are composed of gravel and lime mortar, which becomes very hard.

The lumbering business is at present at a stand still, and the saw-mills are idle, for the lumbermen are all engaged in farming. Eleven men are engaged in sowing grain and repairing the fences at Paragoonah.

The U. S. Rifle Company camped on Little Creek last night. Messrs. George Bean and Alfred, Indian interpreters to that company, came in this morning, and report all well. Mr. Bean informs me that the horses in charge of the company took a stampede at Meadow Creek, and ran thirty miles, but were nearly all recovered; some of them were injured by the picket pins attached to the larietes. More anon.

GEORGE A. SMITH.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The New Gathering Place—Good Prospects.

Honolulu, Oahu, S. I.,
May 12, 1855.

Elder F. D. Richards.

Dear Brother—Your letter and the package of *Stars*, &c., forwarded by the *Pons Aelii*, have come safely to hand, all in good order. . . . . .

The books have not sold as readily as I could have wished, yet we hope eventually to dispose of them all. There are but a few persons (who read English) who care much about "Mormonism;" they have mostly come here to aggrandise themselves, and have no time to listen to the truths of heaven. . . . . .

As changes will take place in the mis-

sion after our next Conference, several of us expecting to return home, agreeable to counsel, I do not wish you to forward any more books or *Stars* at present, or until ordered by our successors.

All the Elders would like to take the *Star* regularly, but this is a hard place to get means. The native Saints are very poor, and are not able to do more than barely support themselves, hence they have not much to give to the Elders. Still, in the midst of poverty and many other embarrassments, the work has progressed, and the Elders have been faithful and rejoice exceedingly in their labours. At no time since the commencement of the mission has it been in as prosperous a condition as at present. The Saints are increasing in knowledge, in faith, and in good works; they begin to realize the magnitude of the work in which they have embarked, and are shaping their actions accordingly. They are very desirous to gather, but such is their poverty, that at present it would be impossible for them to emigrate to America, even if the laws did not prevent them from doing so. Having a desire to place them in a situation to earn means to emigrate, providing the way should open, and to get them away from the corrupt influences with which they are continually surrounded, to a place where we could control their labours, and instruct them more fully, not only in the spiritual things of the kingdom, but in temporal things also, we have selected a temporary gathering place on the Island of Lanai, (one of this group), where we have procured the use of a piece of land free of cost for four years. On this we have opened a farm, planted crops of wheat, oats, corn, potatoes, onions, beans, &c., all of which bid fair to yield good crops this season—already some wheat is ready for the sickle. This labour is performed by native pioneers from different islands of the group, one or more American Elders oversee, and direct the labour. These islands being a place of resort for whale ships, there is a great demand for produce of all kinds, hence we shall have no difficulty in finding a market for our produce. An excellent spirit prevails among the pioneers, and they are exercising a salutary influence among the inhabitants of the island (Lanai), many of whom have already joined the Church.

Our Elders are pretty well distributed over the whole group, and the natives, as well as foreigners, in all parts, are being left without excuse.

Our hands were greatly strengthened by the arrival in our midst last fall of 19 young Elders from Utah, who have taken right hold of the work, and have been and are making good progress in the native language. The voices of several have already been heard, sounding the proclamation of salvation in the Hawaiian tongue, although they have not been much over six months in the land. This causes us to rejoice, and praise our Father in heaven, and our hearts are filled with glorious anticipations in the future. When all these young men get the language, priestcraft will be made to tremble in its strongholds.

Pray for us, brother Richards, and ask the British Saints to remember us in this far off land among the degenerated children of Jacob, that our labours may be blessed in raising them from their low and degraded state, and that the day may speedily come when "the isles shall wait upon the Lord."

Your brother Henry is on the Island of Hawaii, the largest of the group, and most distant from this place. He was well, and making good proficiency in the language the last we heard from him. I immediately, on the receipt thereof, forwarded your letter to him. His package is here awaiting his order.

We hold our next General Conference at our new settlement, Island of Lanai, commencing on the 24th of July, when we shall all meet for the first time upon a foreign land.

A general time of health prevails among the brethren of the mission, as also among the Saints generally. All, with one exception, of the Elders who first came here returned home last year, and others whose health and circumstances would not permit them to remain longer, returned this spring, and several more will leave after the General Conference, so that the burthen of the mission will roll on to the young Elders who came last fall.

I have thus brokenly given you a brief account of the progress of the work on these lands, hoping that I have done no more than will be acceptable to you.

With love to yourself and those associated with you in Britain, and prayers for your prosperity in the Redeemer's cause, I remain as ever your brother and labourer in the Gospel,

PHILIP B. LEWIS.

The Latter-day Saints' Millennial Star.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1855.

THE GATHERING OF ISRAEL.—The work of the Lord is gaining slowly but surely in the heart of Europe, notwithstanding the poverty and oppression which bind down the people. A fire is kindled which will continue to spread in the hearts of the honest, and light up in them the hopes of eternal life. There are many who are of Israel in Switzerland, Piedmont, Germany, and surrounding nations, to whom the Lord will bring deliverance in His own appointed time. He will yet plead with these nations, by His judgments, until the power of priestcraft is broken, and the shackles of oppression are loosened, sufficiently for the captive to walk in the ordinances of the Gospel, and gather out to the land where the mind can expand, and the spirit and body freely partake of the elements of life, which the God of heaven designed should be used for the benefit of all His creatures. While the enemies of truth may perchance rejoice over some apparent momentary check to its progress, they are only smothering the fire for a time, while it accumulates greater force. The testimony of the Priesthood and the power of revelation are gradually weakening the foundations of all human institutions, civil, political, and religious, and every attempt to steady the tottering fabrics only betrays their growing weakness. Whenever the Elders of Israel make their appearance, proclaiming the Gospe of salvation, clothed with the Holy Priesthood, wielding the sword of the Spirit, and working by the light of revelation, hireling priests are stimulated to industry to save their craft, and the political fears of petty tyrants, whose personal merit generally forms no element of their greatness, are excited, for among the rulers of the day, whether monarchial or republican, virtue and integrity are scarce commodities, and are oftener found in the cottage of the peasant than the palace of the prince. Those scarce gems—honest hearts, are the only materials with which the Lord will establish His kingdom, at least that portion of it which will be honoured with His presence, and beautified with elements of celestial origin. These are the materials which He is sending forth His hunters to find and collect together to a place where the master workman can polish them up, and fit them to become "lively stones" in the Temple of our God. When the Elders suffer imprisonments, and the buffetings and sneers of the bigoted and self-righteous, in the pursuit of so glorious an object, they have the consolation of knowing that the salvation of one soul is worth a life of toil, for that single germ, quickened by the power of eternal increase, will grow, through the endless circles of eternity, into myriads of intelligencies, to increase the glory and swell the retinue of their Heavenly Father.

The time has come when the past rapid progress of this kingdom is but a very imperfect criterion by which to calculate its gigantic strides in the future. Its affinity with the heavens is daily increasing, and it is becoming more perfect as the medium through which the powers behind the vail can extend salvation to their prodigal sons and daughters, who have long wandered in the darkness of ignorance, and suffered under the blighting influences of rejected revelation. The voice which at first spoke low out of the ground, and whispered the sacred history of the millions of father Lehi's children on the American continent, is now echoing through the Valleys of Ephraim, calling them back to the allegiance of their fathers, and making them the subjects of that kingdom, to the royal rights of which they are natural heirs by covenant and promise. The Lord is manifesting Himself to them by dreams, revelations, and the

ministering of angels, preparing their minds to receive His messengers, yield obedience to a living Priesthood, through which they can be restored to the blessings of eternal life, and repair the broken chains of their generations.

Those Lamanites in whose veins courses the pure blood of Israel, unmixed with that of the Gentiles, are easily operated upon by the Spirit of truth, and they obey it, and go down into the waters of baptism by whole tribes at a time, thus literally fulfilling the ancient prophecy, that a nation shall be born in a day. The time has come which the Saints have been desiring and earnestly praying for since the Book of Mormon was revealed, when these remnants of Jacob shall flock into the kingdom, and that purifying process commence, which will make them a white and delightsome people. Here is a mighty field opened for the planting of the Gospel in a soil congenial to its growth, where it will spread like a fire among brambles, and purify these degenerate sons of holy sires from the corrupt weeds which have luxuriated in their systems for centuries. But few have properly considered the real magnitude of this work. The wild tribes of the Rocky Mountains, commonly reckoned within the limits of the United States and her Territories, constitute but a very small portion of the numbers of the Lamanites. Numerous tribes of them are scattered through that immense portion of the Continent, called the British Possessions. On the South, it is probable that three-fourths of the inhabitants of Mexico and Central America are wholly, or in part, descended from the aborigines of the country. The same may be said of the civilized portions of South America, while a vast extent of that Continent still remains almost entirely unexplored, occupied by the original inhabitants, in their native state of comparative purity, because uncorrupted by the contaminating influences of modern civilization. Upon examination of this subject, it would probably be found that more than one half of the inhabitants of the Western world have Lamanitish blood courses in their veins. Thus the field is not only large, but promises a great and glorious harvest of such as will be saved in the kingdom of God, and will prove a stronghold of defence, and a mighty bulwark for its protection.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE—*Deseret—San Francisco—San Bernardino.*—Quite unexpectedly on our part, but none the less welcome, the *Deseret News* for June 6 came to hand August 11. We suppose it left Great Salt Lake City by one of the mail waggons which the *News* announces was to return from thence June 7. Peace was prevailing in the Valleys. The Hon. J. M. Bernhisel arrived at G. S. L. City in good health and spirits, with the eastern mail which was due in May, but which arrived June 5. All the mail matter put aboard at Independence was taken through, and some belonging to a former trip. Spanish corn and buckwheat were in demand for replanting and resowing for late crops. By latest advices from California, Elder Parley P. Pratt was in San Francisco, and enjoying excellent health. Brother W. McBride was to start from California, May 1, with a company of Saints bound for the Valley, and it was expected that Elder Reddick N. Allred, of the Sandwich Islands Mission, would return home in the same company. A Conference was held at San Bernardino, April 6, 7, and 8. During its continuance 13 persons were rebaptized, the weather was pleasant, and the attendance general.

St. Louis.—We learn from the *Luminary* that Elder Erastus Snow left St. Louis for Atchison and the Plains, July 17, on his way to Great Salt Lake City. He expects to return to St. Louis this season. During his absence the *Luminary* is under the chie direction of Elder Orson Spencer, who at our last dates was about performing a short mission to the Cherokee Indians, west of the states of Arkansas and Missouri.

The Plains—Death of Elder J. F. Secrist.—A letter by a "Traveller," dated Atchison, July 8, in the *Mormon* of July 28, states that Elder Jacob F. Secrist, late President of the German mission, had died, between Atchison and Kearney, from fatigue in hunting cattle.

Switzerland.—Elder William Budge, in a letter to us, dated July 6th, says, "I received several letters from the Saints in Switzerland a few days ago, with good news, especially from Zurich and around. The Saints continue to rejoice in the Gospel, and the Elders are busy in spreading the truth as much as circumstances will allow. At the same time they feel very desirous of leaving their country, which denies them the privilege of enjoying their religion. Their hearts are set on Zion, and they pray continually for deliverance. One of the letters I received was written by one of the Travelling Elders. He writes in good spirits, and says that he was going next morning to baptize six or seven persons. When I wrote I encouraged them as much as possible, and told them of your interest concerning them, for which they feel very thankful, and send much love to beloved President Richards, and say the time will seem long until they have another letter."

Piedmont.—Elder Samuel Francis writes to Elder G. D. Keaton, from the valleys of Piedmont—"You are well acquainted with the Waldensian valleys, but you do not know our present position, and it would be out of my power to describe it to you. Since the departure of the emigrants, we have not found a house like that of brother Malan. Brothers Gardiol and Chaterlain have been our principal supporters. Elder Rochan has not had any employ for the last three or four months, and nearly all the other Saints in the valleys have been in the same condition. We have been under the necessity of cutting off seven, who in their poverty have been bought with bread and polent by the Protestant ministers. All the others are well, and I hope they will continue to be more and more faithful to the work of God. We baptized a young man last Sunday, and expect to baptize a few more soon."

THE "LUMINARY."—Persons wishing to subscribe for the Second Volume of the *Luminary* are requested to forward to us, at the earliest convenience, their subscription for six or twelve months, as the case may be, that we may transmit the same to St. Louis, before the commencement of the Volume, which takes place at the beginning of the coming year. Subscriptions, for not less than six months, are received at any stage of a Volume, but the back Numbers cannot be insured. Terms—13s. per annum, in advance; subscribers paying English postage—one penny per copy, on receipt of the papers.

Home Correspondence.

WALES.

"Udgorn Seion" Office, Swansea,
July, 1855.

President Richards.

Dear Brother—In submitting you, by request, a brief report of the condition and circumstances of the Church of God in Wales, it affords me great pleasure to represent that, although the calumnies of the press and pulpit, and the stubborn prejudices of a severely priest-ridden populace have prevented the augmentation of our numbers as I could wish, yet I have unmistakable evidences, in the unity, diligence, and humility of the Saints, of the increase of the spirit of the Gospel in them.

'Tis due to my worthy Counsellor Elder Daniels, and the presiding Elders (with very few dishonourable exceptions, which have resulted in expulsion), to say

that, through the blessing of Him who owns the work, upon their energetic measures and vigilant watch-care, love and harmony, undisturbed peace and prosperity reign amongst the Priesthood and Saints, to the exclusion of every principle or practice incompatible with their profession, from all the fourteen Conferences over which I have the honourable watch-care; a disposition to honour their religion before the world, by *living its precepts*, and to disseminate it by tracting and testifying from house to house, never has appeared more prominent than at the present time, nor have I ever been more flattered with the prospects of the Church than I am with its present condition.

A laudable exertion is being made by the Conferences severally, especially during the summer season, to extend their confines, to overspread the country by outdoor preaching, and by sending out a promising number of spirited young officers to testify to and warn the people in new and evacuated places, of which we have a few yet remaining. An increase of confidence in the Holy Priesthood, so characteristic of the pure in heart, and so essential to salvation, is manifested in the promptness of their response to every counsel, and in the renewed interest they evince in seeing it not only preached but *practised* also. In brief, the manifest improvement I perceive in the condition of the Church in general, is a continual source of indescribable joy to me, forming new themes of praise to Him who alone is able to accomplish it, and presenting additional incentives to ever prayerfully contribute my mite in behalf of all its interests.

In reference to the *circumstances* of this part of our Great Father's vineyard, although it is as devoid of "gold diggings" as any other barren corner thereof, yet the elaborate dissertations on this, of late, all-absorbing essential that have echoed and re-echoed in the ears of all, the out-pourings of heaven's and earth's blessings upon the liberal-minded, and covering the serf who loves his gold more than the kingdom of our God with a mildew and poverty, all has served to make the poor Saints feel rich and liberal, and to delight in paying all dues to their God. One instance at issue, which occurred yesterday in Conference, proves the point—in response to a call to liquidate the debts of this Conference, upwards of sixty pounds was either cashed down in meeting, or subscribed to be paid in a few weeks by volunteers. A similar feeling is being awakened more generally of late than hitherto, and the consequent rewards for liberality keep pace with their strides.

A more lively interest is evinced in behalf of the P. E. Fund, and this praiseworthy auxiliary to the gathering of the poor Saints homeward will entertain more of the confidence, and hence of the liberality, of the Welsh Saints than hitherto. . . . . I feel that a better day has dawned in this respect.

You will be pleased to learn that I have the pledges of the Presiding Elders generally, that the sums allotted them to pay towards building the Temple of the Lord in Zion will be forthcoming in due time—pledges their sense of honour will not allow to be dishonoured, I trust.

In the book department appertaining to both Offices, quite a reformation has been going on progressively for a few months past, but none too soon; causing *every Sub-agent*, or the Branch for him, to clear up all dues, except the stock on hand, every quarter; to collect every individual debt, and make collection for the amount, if any in default. I also require every General Agent to furnish me with a Balance Sheet in full, quarterly, a form for which I have published for each agent. This not only apprises me what their stock consists of, and whether auditors do their duty, but also the names of the Branches who become involved or otherwise, and will, I trust, induce all to adhere more closely to your "Instructions" given to this important department, and *prevent* defalcations. A general awakening is taking place on this subject—days' works, lectures, "soirees," &c., are on foot in order to liquidate old debts, rusty for years past, and almost forgotten.

In reference to the present prospects for the future success of the Gospel among the worldly part of the community, the alarm of priests and editors, as well as the hue-and-cry of the numerous emissaries of our great enemy; the increasing audiences the Elders obtain generally, and the lively interest which the public manifest in the all-absorbing topic of "Mormonism," more than intimate that it is neither dead nor dying; rumours of wars, plagues, famines, earthquakes, murders, rapes, starvings, and the haggish train of modern "Christianity," variegated by the

beautiful delineations of "Mormon monstrosities," "cruelties," "horribles," "Mormonism exploded," "Mormon polygamy," "Divorced wives' exposures," and a thousand-and-one other sweet-scented nosegays, may divert their attention a while, but, like "Jonah's gourd," they fade and perish, and, when the Spirit of truth, like a breeze from Paradise, blows away their stench, "Mormonism"—the same impregnable and ever-living theme, still haunts them closer than before; every contrast presented subserves to approximate the belligerents, so that hundreds, if not thousands, now stand aghast on the brink, with nothing apparently withholding but shame that they have been so long scared by the baseless bug-bears of their clerical hob-goblin-story-tellers. The fact that all these things are in literal fulfilment of ancient and modern prophecies is rapidly gaining publicity among the reflecting public, and the existing feeling flatters us to expect that a host is coming—at the door.

May the Great God who owns this marvellous work, and with whom alone rests the power to propel it onward, grant us the prosperity to save the souls of our fellow-beings into His kingdom, which our hearts desire, give us wisdom to govern, influence to save, and power to "overcome" Babylon and everything Babylonish, to build up Zion, if needs be, on the ruins of even a world, and to crown Him whose right it is to reign King of kings over all His dominion speedily, is the heart's desire of your humble servant and fellow-labourer in the Gospel,

D. Jones.

SCOTLAND.

Kilmarnock, 10th July, 1855.

President F. D. Richards.

Dear Brother—This morning I sit down to give you a plain and correct account of our labours throughout Scotland, and I do it with great cheerfulness, knowing that you ought to hear of the success of those that labour under your watch-care.

We held our quarterly Conference in Dundee, the 17th June, and I am happy to say, that there was a first-rate spirit with the Saints, and all who assembled with us. The Reports from the various Branches were good, with few exceptions. The most of the Priesthood are doing their utmost to extend the work, and gather in the honest in heart, and I can happily say, that their worthy President, Elder Daniel McArthur, is a whole-souled "Mormon," and that the most of his flock partake of his spirit, which makes them also whole-souled in the work of the Lord.

They are comparatively free of debt, and have but one travelling Elder—brother Mark Barnes, who has been in the field a long time. He is a faithful and trust-worthy man, and I feel pleasure in recommending him. . . . . .

The Conference numbers 241. They have paid this quarter, to Temple Fund, £6 15s. 2d.; to P. E. Fund, £8 6s. 11½d.; to Foreign Missions, £1 13s. 11d.; besides other expenses of the Conference; the total for all purposes being £23 13s. 7d.

Edinburgh Conference came off on the 24th, when we were favoured with the society of Elder James Ferguson and J. D. T. McAllister, from Ireland, and Elder Walter Granges, President of the Glasgow Conference, who contributed much to our happiness on that occasion, for our heavenly Father gave us much of His good Spirit, which is life, light, and salvation to those who enjoy it. The Reports from the Branches of this Conference were also very favourable. The Saints there feel well, and realize more the necessity of keeping the commandments of God, than ever they did in their lives. They also have a good man to preside over them, whose heart is devoted to the cause of truth, and the Saints love and respect him very much.

We have now in that Conference three Travelling Elders, two of them were called out at our last Conference meeting, the other has laboured some time in the ministry, and he is a faithful, worthy man, and would do great good in any sphere.

The total number of members is 672. They have paid to Temple Fund this quarter, £20 17s. 11d.; to P. E. Fund, £25 9s. 9d.; to Foreign Missions, £3 10s.; to clothing for Elders, travelling expenses, and the support of families, £46 15s. 9½d.; total for the quarter, £96 13s. 5½d.

I will say, to the praise of some of our faithful brethren in that Conference, that they voluntarily live up to the law of tithing, and testify to the rest of the Saints

that they are better off now than they were before they paid their tithing. I know this rule to be a correct one, that those who love the Lord will love all of His laws, and keep them, and upon such He will pour out His blessings till their hearts are satisfied. I have proved the law of tithing to be a law of God, and a source of blessing to me from the day on which I entered into the waters of baptism. As for the present, I feel as though I am all tithing, and may it ever be so.

Now, as for the Glasgow Conference, I will begin with the President, Elder Grainger, first. I love to testify of the virtues of good men, and as it may be somewhat in his favour, I will say, he is a true-hearted Saint. This is the first Conference, as you well know, that he has had the honour to preside over, but for my part, I cannot see but that he is fully up to any of the old hands at the business.

The Conference was held on the 1st of July, and the Reports brought in by the Branch Presidents were cheering, and we can feel that there is quite an increase of faith and union with the Saints and the Priesthood. We had a grand day on the Sunday, and also a fine soiree on the Monday following, and I can say that the Conference is in a prosperous condition.

They have paid for the past quarter, to Temple Fund, £42 5s. 1d.; P. E. Fund, £41 5s. 2½d.; Foreign Missions, £4 2s. 1d.; and Conference expenses besides; which make up the total to £120 4s. 11d.

A number of our best paying members have emigrated this year.

The Conference numbers actually, that we can find, 1151; the remainder are scattered and lost, which make up our total in the Half-yearly Report to 1455.

We find, in searching the records of the Glasgow Branch, that there are 220 members whom we can learn nothing of, although there have often been Councils called, and their names read out, and enquiries made after them severally. However, we intend to continue our search for the lost sheep of our Father's flock, that none may be lost through our negligence. May the Lord help us to do our duty all the time.

I have removed Elder James McGhie from the Kilmarnock Conference to Glasgow. He is a faithful young man, and bids fair to be very useful. He has been in the ministry only one year.

Kilmarnock Conference was held on Sunday last. We are still favoured with the society of our brethren from Ireland.

The good spirit of our Heavenly Father has been abundantly poured out upon us in our assemblies in this Conference. The Saints feel well and are much united. The Reports from the Branches were good, though the Saints have been somewhat oppressed for want of work, which has been rather against the financial Report. But I am happy to say, that it is better now, and, judging from the good spirit manifested by the Saints, I think they will bring up all arrears this quarter.

The Saints here are few, but I must say, they have done nobly, taking into consideration that they have helped off to the Valley brothers Booth and Glasgow lately. They are a noble people, and determined to be behind none, and that is the spirit of their worthy President, Elder J. D. Ross, an old and steady hand at the Gospel plough, but his worth need not be extolled by me, as he is well known. He is in first-rate spirits, and we labour in union in all things.

I can say that this Conference is not behind the others in Scotland; if they have not done for one purpose, they have done for another.

They have the past quarter been employed in getting clothes for Travelling Elders, paying old Conference debts, &c. They are now comparatively free, save of that which they owe the Office, which is duly considered by us. And we do not intend to cease our endeavours, while we are permitted to remain here, till it is all paid.

As I have not before me the Financial Report, I shall omit it.

We have but one Travelling Elder in this Conference that we have lately called out.

You will see, by the above details of the various Conferences throughout this Pastorate, that we are in a prosperous condition. Though we have not baptized so many as other Conferences, our prospects are good, and I can truly say, I never saw men labour more faithfully to convince the people of the truth than my brethren do in this land. Well! the seed is sown, the Lord hasten the day when we shall see the increase.

I must say, that I never laboured in the

ministry with more satisfaction, than I have done since I came to Scotland, though I found a kind and noble hearted people in England wheresoever my lot was cast. But I suppose that my experience serves to make my labours more agreeable.

There is a perfect union existing between the Presidents of the Conferences and myself, and also, as a general thing, amongst all the Saints. And I could not ask anything more at the hands of the brethren, than what they wish to be done. Therefore I feel to pour out my soul continually to the Lord for them, and the continuation of our union, and may it increase for ever.

Having already much extended my representation, I shall close now by saying, we shall be happy to see brother Franklin as soon as his business will permit.

Your brother in the Gospel Covenant,
EDWARD BUNKER.

BRADFORD, SHEFFIELD, AND LINCOLNSHIRE CONFERENCES.

71 Washington Road, Sheffield,
July 17, 1855.

President F. D. Richards.

Dear Brother—I am happy at the present time in having an opportunity of presenting you a condensed statement of our doings and prospects in the Sheffield, Bradford, and Lincolnshire Conferences.

I am delighted to say the most perfect union characterises all the efforts and movements of the Priesthood. Every exertion is being made to bring our principles fairly before the people. Out-door preaching is being extensively practised, with good effect. Opposition is rife, yet, notwithstanding, those who have a becoming regard for the truth of the Gospel, listen with attention, and seem desirous to learn more of our principles. Baptisms are becoming quite frequent, and I am pleased to say, all things taken into account, the prospects are cheering.

Measures have been adopted for the efficient carrying out of your counsel in reference to the Temple Offering. All seem sanguine in the belief that the allotments for the Sheffield and Bradford Conferences will be made up by the end of the current quarter.

At a Council Meeting of the Sheffield Branch, convened on Wednesday evening 4th instant, the subject of the Temple Offering was brought forward, and the brethren composing the Council were called upon to express their sentiments in reference to the Temple Offering, when a unanimous feeling was expressed in favour of raising the entire allotment by the close of the present quarter, upon which a subscription was set on foot, and the respectable sum of £21 was raised by the Council on that occasion, the subscriptions ranging from 5s. to £1.

I was particularly pleased with this Council, because of the peculiar spirit which seemed to actuate the Priesthood—they appeared to consider it a privilege of the first order to have an opportunity to aid in building the house of the Lord in the tops of the mountains, as predicted by ancient servants of God; and when we consider the great delight those ancient worthies seem to have experienced in anticipation of this glorious event, it is no marvel to see those who are immediately connected with it, and have the privilege of participating in the great work, count it a pleasure to exert all their faculties to forward the work so much admired by the Prophets of God in all ages.

I am delighted in being able to say to you, our financial affairs, as a general thing, present a healthy appearance, and every department appears to be in good working order.

The Lincolnshire Conference are not so forward with their financial affairs, owing to their scattered and unwieldly condition. Elder Oakley is exerting himself to the utmost to bring every department into proper condition. The Conference, which convened in Grantham on the 8th instant, voted to appropriate the avails of one day's work for each member, for the benefit of the Temple Offering, for the present quarter, which will help out with the allotment so far, that I am persuaded we shall be able to forward the entire amount by the end of the year. The Bradford Conference was convened in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Bradford, on the 24th ultimo. The meetings were well attended. All matters of business passed off in good order, and the most perfect union characterised the assembled Saints, and much of that lovely cementing influence which Jesus declared must characterise his people, was exhibited. Brother Joseph A. Young was in

high spirits, and seemed to possess the power and spirit of his calling and Priesthood in a most visible manner. I feel great pleasure in saying that his course and indefatigable perseverance in the performance of his high and important duties are praiseworthy indeed.

The Sheffield Conference was held on the 1st instant. All matters of business passed off in the most satisfactory manner. The most harmonious feeling pervaded the assemblies of the Saints. The Conference was well attended, and great joy and satisfaction were realized by the Saints. Several persons presented themselves as candidates for baptism during the day. The Spirit of truth rested upon the Priesthood in a marked manner, and the word of truth was spoken with power and good effect.

Elder Edward Frost is full of zeal for the cause of truth, and is always ready to carry out the instructions of those who are called to counsel him, and direct the affairs of the Church. The result is union and good will throughout the entire Conference.

I have twelve Travelling Elders in my Pastorate—five in Bradford Conference, four in Sheffield, and three in Lincolnshire, all of whom are doing all in their power to forward the cause of truth.

The Gospel is being preached in many villages adjacent to Sheffield, Bradford, and Leeds, with good effect, and I am happy to say the prospects for additions in many parts are cheering.

I am resolved that no exertion shall be wanting for the forwarding of the work while I am permitted to labour in this district, and I am sanguine in the belief that we shall be able to accomplish a good work in this vicinity during the remainder of the present year. That this may be the case, I shall exert all my energies and faith, constantly relying on the Lord, who has called us to prune His vineyard, preparatory to His return to dwell with His people.

I will here state that the sale of books and *Stars*, and the interests of the publishing department, are not overlooked, but shall, as hitherto, receive due attention.

Earnestly praying that the blessings of wisdom, strength, and knowledge may abide with you in rich abundance, to make you equal to your onerous and important duties, I am yours, as ever, undeviating in the cause of truth,

C. G. Webb.

Varieties.

Integrity, however rough, is better than smooth dissimulation.

Many persons pass their lives in regretting the past, complaining of the present, and indulging false hopes of the future.

I consider no conquest I ever made worth one year's interest of the money it cost.—*Frederick the Great.*

Let not any one say he cannot govern his passions, nor hinder them from breaking out and carrying him into action; for what he can do before a prince or a great man, he can do alone, or in the presence of God, if he will.—*Locke.*

Imaginary Wants.—If we create imaginary wants, why do we not create imaginary satisfactions? It is the happier frenzy of the two to be like the mad Athenian, who thought all the ships that came into the harbour to be his own, than be still tormenting ourselves with insatiable desires.—*Bulstrode.*

Cheerfulness.—"Laugh and grow fat," is an old adage. Sterne tells us that every time a man laughs he adds something to his life. Dr. Sydenham said the arrival of a merry-andrew in a town was more beneficial to the health of the inhabitants than twenty asses loaded with medicine. Mr. Pott used to say that he never saw the "Tailor riding to Brentford" without feeling better for a week afterwards.

A Highlander Puzzled.—A drover, fresh from the land of heather, whose knowledge of the sea, and of its ebb and flow, was confined to one grand idea of its magnitude, arrived the other day at the Craig Pier with a flock of sheep, intending to go over into Fife. It being low water, and the boat already well laden, the captain told him that he must wait the next hour, as he was afraid he would not have water enough to float from the pier. "Water enough!" quoth John Highlandman, with the utmost amazement, "Och, man! if ye dinna hae water enuff in the muckle sea, far wud ye get it, than?"